

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an application layer function outside the BLUETOOTH protocol which associates a BLUETOOTH unique address, i.e., the 48-bit unique BD_ADDR address, with a short
5 passcode or PIN which is associated with a particular type of BLUETOOTH device in a particular piconet. The passcode or PIN can be pre-determined by the manufacturer of the BLUETOOTH device, or can be input and defined by the user. Upon installation in a piconet, in one embodiment shown and described with reference to Figs. 1 and 2, a user
10 can be asked to manually input a particular passcode or PIN into a relevant piconet device, and an inquiry can be broadcast to all communicating piconet devices and only those other piconet devices having a matching passcode or PIN associated therewith can automatically forward their respective 48-bit unique BD_ADDR addresses
15 to the inquiring piconet device. Alternatively, a user can inquire and be provided with a list of available passcodes or PINs already established by other devices in the piconet, and select a particular passcode or PIN associated with one or more other piconet devices. The passcode or personal identification number (PIN) may be input upon electronic device
20 setup (e.g., a four character code). The passcode or PIN may be numeric, text, or alphanumeric.